

MEANS COMPETITION, UNDERWOOD ASSERTS

Chairman of Ways and Means Committee Declares His Tariff Bill Will Bring Relief to the People.

CUTS MADE IN THE NECESSARIES

Revision Will Work No Detriment to Properly Conducted Manufacturing Industries, He Says—Making Luxuries of Life Pay Their Proper Portion—Tobacco and Spirits Left at Same Rates.

Washington, April 7.—In a statement accompanying the Democratic tariff bill Chairman Underwood of the Ways and Means Committee said the measure would, in the opinion of its makers, revise the tariff "to a basis of legitimate competition, such as will afford a wholesome influence on our commerce, bring relief to the people in the matter of the high cost of living, and at the same time work no detriment to properly conducted manufacturing industries."

"In its tariff revision work the committee has kept in mind," Mr. Underwood said, "the distinction between the necessities and the luxuries of life, reducing the tariff burdens on the necessities to the lowest points commensurate with revenue requirements, and making the luxuries of life bear their proper portion of the tariff responsibilities. Many items of manufacture controlled by monopolies have been placed on the free list."

"In the chemical schedule the rates on certain commodities show heavy reductions. For instance, boracic acid is cut from 78.70 per cent to 21.25 per cent, glue from 55.66 per cent to 14.25 per cent, and red lead from 60.55 per cent to 25 per cent. Moderate reductions have been made on medicinal preparations, which are cut from 25 per cent to 15 per cent, blacking from 25 per cent to 15 per cent, drugs from 12.5 per cent to 10 per cent, and olive oil from 35.18 per cent to 21.05 per cent. The schedule contains a number of articles on which either no reduction has been made or an advance provided for."

"Rates on all brick have been cut on the average from 20.23 per cent to 10.28 per cent; tile from 47.84 per cent to 22.3 per cent, and asphalt from 37.65 per cent to 32.2 per cent. Ordinary earthenware, which was already relatively low, being subject to an average duty of 24.67 per cent, has now been cut to 15 per cent, while window glass has been given an average reduction on all glasses of from 46.88 per cent to 28.31 per cent. Plate glass, which may be considered a luxury, still retains a duty of nearly 40 per cent, the average being 38.45 per cent, in place of the duty of 63.35 per cent in the law."

Heavy Pig Iron Cut.

Pig iron and slabs, which were 16.55 per cent and 17.79 per cent, have been cut to 8 per cent in each case; beams from 23.30 per cent to 12 per cent, and forgings from 29 per cent to 15 per cent. On the other hand, bicycles, a much more highly manufactured product, are dutiable at 25 per cent, as against 45 per cent, and razors at 35 per cent, as against 77.68 per cent.

"The idea of the large extension of the free list for the unmanufactured products has been the fundamental conception, while the effort has been made to improve the status of the manufactured lumber. Thus sawed boards, other than cabinet wood, have been carried to the free list, while sawed cabinet woods, which were 12.75 per cent in 1912, are now 20 per cent; casks, barrels, etc., which were 20 per cent, are now 14.77 per cent, and house furniture, which was 25 per cent, is now 15 per cent."

"Tobacco and spirits have been found to be good producers of revenue, and have, therefore, been left at the same rates as in the present law."

In the effort to relieve the consumer and to mitigate the high and rising cost of living, Schedule G, which deals with agricultural products, has been thoroughly revised and important reductions have been made. For instance, the duty on horses has been reduced from 25 per cent to 10 per cent, cattle from 26.97 per cent to 10 per cent, barley from 43.05 per cent to 23.07 per cent, macaroni from 24.25 per cent to 23.81 per cent, hay from 42.21 per cent to 26.67 per cent, fruits from 27.21 per cent to 15.38 per cent, figs from 51.33 per cent to 42.19 per cent, lemons from 48.85 per cent to 24.03 per cent, live poultry from 13.10 per cent to 6.67 per cent and vinegar from 33.09 per cent to 17.39 per cent. Other changes are in proportion, and the general effect has been to reduce in a very material proportion the heavy taxes upon imported foodstuffs.

Cotton Goods Cut Down.

In Schedule I, dealing with cotton, comparisons of the principal items show reductions on cotton thread from 31.54 per cent to 13.29 per cent, on spool thread from 22.95 per cent to 15 per cent, on cotton cloth from 42.74 per cent to 26.69 per cent, on waterproof cloth from 60.55 per cent to 25 per cent, on ready made clothing from 50 per cent to 30 per cent, on collars and cuffs from 64.05 per cent to 25 per cent, on plashes from 61.40 per cent to 15 per cent, on handkerchiefs from 40 per cent to 20 per cent, on stockings from 75.33 per cent to 50 per cent, on gloves from 88.17 per cent to 32 per cent, on underwear from 60.27 per cent to 25 per cent, and on cotton damask from 40 per cent to 25 per cent.

"Flax, hemp and their products have been similarly dealt with. Raw flax and raw hemp have been reduced from \$2.40 and \$2.50 per ton, respectively, to \$1.20 each; jute yarns have been cut from 26.90 per cent to 15 per cent, cables and cordage from 64.3 per cent to 4.55 per cent, cloths for floors from 44.29 per cent to 15 per cent, handkerchiefs from 50 per cent to 25 per cent."

"Schedule K, dealing with wool and woollen manufactures, has been the centre of criticism for many years, and the committee has given it very careful study. The result has been to make raw wool free of duty, to reduce yarns from 75.34 per cent to 20 per cent, blankets from 72.69 per cent to 25 per cent, flannels from 60.29 per cent to 25 and 25 per cent, dress goods from 69.70 per cent to 25 per cent, clothing from 73.56 per cent to 25 per cent, webbing, etc., from 82.7 to 25 per cent, and carpets from rates ranging from 60 per cent to 32 per cent to rates ranging from 20 per cent to 25 per cent."

"Inasmuch as silk and silk goods are to be classed as luxuries, it has been deemed wise to make only very moderate reductions in the rates of duty."

CUTS IN RATES ON NECESSARIES.

Washington, April 7.—Chairman Underwood of the Ways and Means Committee gave out to-day the following table, showing reductions in the new bill on necessities, reduced to an ad valorem basis:

	Present law.	Proposed law.
Cream of tartar	25.45	17.85
Medicinal preparations	39.05	31.11
Castor oil	33.19	15.00
Wash blue	33.59	15.00
Saltpeper	9.27	6.87
Common soap	20.00	5.00
Saleptum, or bicarbonate of soda	21.51	8.50
Salt soda, washing soda	29.93	16.25
Borax, refined	21.22	1.31
Lime	9.17	5.00
China and crockery, not decorated	55.00	35.00
Grindstones	9.31	8.32
Bicycles	45.00	25.00
Pocketknives	17.68	35.00 to 55.00
Razors	72.36	35.00 to 55.00
Scissors and shears	33.77	30.00
Knives and forks	41.93	27.00
Furniture	35.00	15.00
Cattle	27.07	10.00
Macaroni, etc.	34.25	23.81
Rice, cleaned	54.05	33.33
Eggs	36.38	14.79
Stocks, etc., of fruit trees	54.44	17.58
Mineral waters	43.56	30.00
Spool thread	22.95	15.00
Cotton cloth	42.74	26.69
Cotton clothing	50.00	30.00
Stockings, hose and half hose, selvaged	7.38	5.00
Men's and boys' cotton work gloves	89.17	35.00
Knit shirts, drawers, etc., and underwear	66.27	35.00
Collars and cuffs	49.10	30.00
Blankets	72.69	35.00
Flannel	93.29	30.00
Clothing, ready made	79.56	35.00
Women's and children's dress goods	98.70	35.00
Sewing silk	25.00	15.00
Wrapping paper	35.00	25.00
Brooms	40.00	15.00
Matches	27.59	14.00
Harness and saddlery, other than leather	33.00	20.00
India rubber, manufacturers of	35.00	10.00
Lead pencils	39.00	25.00



Photo by Harris & Ewing

OSCAR UNDERWOOD.
Who reported the new tariff measure to the House yesterday.

Lime, from 5 cents per 100 pounds to 5 per cent ad valorem.

China clay, a ton, from \$2.50 to \$1.25.

Puller's earth, manufactured, from \$3 to \$1.50 a ton.

Mica, manufactured, from 5 cents and 20 per cent additional, a pound, to 30 per cent ad valorem.

Chinaware, decorated, from 60 per cent to 50 per cent ad valorem; chinaware, plain white, from 75 per cent to 50 per cent ad valorem.

Cut and decorated glass, from 60 per cent to 45 per cent ad valorem.

Mirrors, from 11 cents and 25 cents a square foot to 7 cents and 13 cents a square foot.

Marble, rough, from 65 cents to 50 cents cubic foot.

Marble articles, from 50 per cent to 45 per cent ad valorem.

Granite and building stone, dressed, from 50 per cent to 25 per cent ad valorem.

Cut and decorated glass, from 60 per cent to 45 per cent ad valorem.

Mirrors, from 11 cents and 25 cents a square foot to 7 cents and 13 cents a square foot.

Marble, rough, from 65 cents to 50 cents cubic foot.

Marble articles, from 50 per cent to 45 per cent ad valorem.

Sheet steel or iron, now \$6 to \$18, cut to 20 per cent.

Tin plate, now \$21 a ton, cut to 20 per cent.

Shotguns and rifles, now \$2.25 to \$30 each, changed to 25 per cent.

Table and kitchen ware, from 40 to 25 per cent.

Steam engines, printing presses, machine tools, from 30 to 45 per cent.

Embroidery and lace-making machines, now free.

The schedule carries a blanket clause that articles or wares not specially provided for shall pay 50 per cent, if wholly or partly of platinum, gold or silver, and 25 per cent if wholly or in chief value composed of iron, steel, lead, copper, nickel, pewter, zinc, aluminum or other metal.

Table ware, penknives and watch movements are required to bear the names of the manufacturer and country of origin.

Lead Ore Goss Down.

Lead bearing ore, from 1½ cents a pound to 2½ cents.

Aluminum, from 7 cents a pound to 25 per cent.

Antimony, from 1 cent a pound to 10 per cent.

Lead bullion, from 2½ cents a pound to 26 per cent.

Nickel pigs, from 6 cents a pound to 19 per cent.

Alkalies and compounds, from 25 per cent ad valorem to 15 per cent.

Alum, etc., from 14 cent per pound to 15 per cent ad valorem.

Bleaching powder, from 1-½ cent to 1-½ cent per pound.

Fruit oils and essences, from \$1 a pound to 20 per cent ad valorem.

Flaxseed and linseed oil, from 15 cents a gallon to 12 cents.

Cod, seal and whale oil, from 8 cents a gallon to 5 cents.

Crude opium, from \$1.50 a pound to \$2.

Prepared opium, from \$2 a pound to \$4.

Ocher and ochre earths; present rates range from ½ cent to 3-½ cent a pound; proposed rate, 5 per cent ad valorem.

Pineapples, from 3 cents to 6 cents a cubic foot, capacity of barrels or packages; from \$8 to \$5 a thousand in bulk.

Chocolate and cocoa, present rate, when valued from 15 cents to 21 cents a pound, 2½ cents a pound and 10 per cent ad valorem additional; proposed new rate 8 per cent ad valorem.

Woollen manufactured goods and clothing; present tariff rates are based in many cases on value of raw wool. Comparison is here made with the equivalent ad valorem duties as previously estimated by the Ways and Means Committee, on wool prices in 1910.

Combed wool and tops, from 16 per cent to 15 per cent.

Cloths, knit fabrics, felts and manufactured goods, from 97 per cent to 35 per cent ad valorem additional, to 60 per cent ad valorem.

Suspender, ribbons, bindings, etc., from 38 per cent to 35 per cent.

Veneers, from 20 to 15 per cent.

Oiler or willow for basket makers' use, from 25 per cent to 10 per cent.

Willow furniture, from 45 per cent to 25 per cent.

Table cloths, from 40 to 25 per cent.

Lace curtains, etc., from 50 to 45 per cent.

Miscellaneous cotton goods from 45 per cent to 30 per cent.

New Rates on Sugar.

The sugar schedule eliminates the duties standard of color and reduces the basic rate on sugar testing by the polariscope not above 75 degrees, from 25-100 of 1 cent a pound to 71-100 of 1 cent a pound.

For each additional degree shown by

FREE LIST OF TARIFF BILL

Besides raw wool, made free at once, and sugar to be free in 1916, the free list of the Democratic tariff is as follows:

Meats	Corn chines	Acetic Acid
Flour	Cornmeal	Sulphuric Acid
Bread	Cotton Bagging	Borax
Boots and Shoes	Agricultural Implements	Steel Rails
Lumber	Leather	Fence Wire
Coal	Wood Pulp	